Minutes for RBAC Meeting: July 7, 2021

7:00 – 9:00 pm, virtual Webex meeting

In attendance online: Wendy Aaronson, Steve Andruski, Emily Bailey, Connie Berkta, Nancy Breen, Sophie Chan-Wood, John Czarapata, Emad Elshafel, Eric Fulton, Jake Jakubek, Bill Michie, Faramarz Mokhtari, Carl Petersen, Daniel Seo, Shannon Brescher Shea, Craig Simoneau, Dave Stinchcomb, Vince Vuong and Robert Wise.

Nancy started the meeting at 7:02 pm with introductions.

(1) Faramarz provided the **City Update** and thanked RBAC and RPAC for the letters of support for the bridge the CSX-WMATA crossing in Twinbrook (see attached).

He presented the **King Buick project** where residential and commercial properties will be developed. The intersection of 355 and King Farm Road will be analyzed for pedestrian and bicycle crossings. There will be a 10-foot wide shared use path and with a 30-feet buffered frontage the south side of 355 to be compliance for a future BRT and dual cycle track as outlined in the 2017 Bikeway Master Plan. The proposed trail recommended by the applicant within the WSSC easement area extending in an east to west direction from MD 355 to dog park requires approval by WSSC prior to its construction. Typically WSSC will not allow such improvements within the easements of their main water lines. The east side of the project extends to Pleasant Drive and the King Farm farmstead which will include parking.

Faramarz also reported that the City is coordinating with the County on the **Baltimore Road project**. The County wants to conserve the 100 year old bridge over Rock Creek and building a vehicle lane on the south side. Rockville's project manager, Andrew Luetkemeier, is working on bicycle/pedestrian alternative and will share publicly. (see attached)

Daniel Seo, project manager, reported on the **Maryland Avenue project** from Potomac Valley Road to South Washington Street (west to east). Two lanes will become one traffic lane with a bike lane heading east bound. The bike lane will be 5-foot wide with a 30 mph 11-foot travel lane entering the City. There is concern about South Washington Street where one lane and bike lane will become 2 travel lanes. Suggestion was to drop the speed limit 5 mph but the City needs to investigate what the state guidelines are. Are there any other protected bike lanes in the City? Although there are currently flashing beacon signals at South Washington Street, a crash still occured at this intersection.

Faramarz presented the **900 Rockville Pike project**. It will include retail space with limited parking. A 10-foot shared-use path is proposed to connect the future cycletrack on 355 from Halpine Road. This compares unfavorably to the buffered 10-foot wide dual bikeway and 20-foot wide landscaped/sidewalk area proposed in the Twinbrook Quarter plan (see Mayor and Council meeting #14-19, 3/25/19). City staff will analyze options of installing a cycletrack and will come back to RBAC for feedback. A revised proposal will be presented to the Mayor and City Council in a October or November meeting.

(2) Carl reported that we have had 6 Tuesday night rides and a Juneteenth ride with about 20 to 30 participants. These group rides have highlighted the bikeability of the City and showcased some history and culture. He suggested the **Carl Henn Millennium Trail rides** start in July on the third Sunday of the month. July 18 is National Ice Cream Day so this ride can stat at 10 am at the Senior Center with an option to go to Carmen's afterwards. Nancy, Carl and Wendy volunteered to help.

The August 15 Carl Henn Millennium Trail ride will start at Woottoon High School at 10 am. Jake, Wendy and Carl can volunteer to lead, sweep and help. September 19 will be the Carl Henn Memorial Ride starting at the Thomas Farm Community Center at 10 am. Carl can lead this and Wendy can help.

Shannon asked is anyone asked about bringing kids or family biking. There were a few requests on our Tuesday night rides.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Sophie Chan-Wood

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments 777 North Capitol St NE Washington, DC 20002

SUBJECT: FY2022 Transit Within Reach Program

Dear Grant Selection Panel,

On behalf of Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee, I am writing to express our strong support for the City's application for the FY2022 Transit Within Reach Program to fund a Preliminary Engineering Study for a new pedestrian/bicycle crossing over the CSX and WMATA railroad tracks. This "green bridge" will connect one of Rockville's oldest neighborhoods with one of our newest, one that is rising from the asphalt parking lots of a previous car centric City. With significant support from our community, and the new development of Twinbrook Quarter, this bridge would provide safe, convenient and free access to jobs, groceries, and transit — linking the Twinbrook Community to all the opportunities on Rockville Pike, Twinbrook Quarter, METRO

A successful grant award would also enable the City to further expand the accessibility of our pedestrian/bikeway infrastructure by designing a pedestrian/bicycle bridge that would connect the Rock Creek Trail to Rockville's bike lanes and eventually connecting to the Carl Henn Millennium Trail This new pedestrian / bicycle bridge will provide a much-needed connection not just between existing local amenities, but also to regional pedestrian /bikeway facilities since this area is located at the southern city limits and in close proximity to new developments at Pike and Rose and White Flint in Montgomery County.

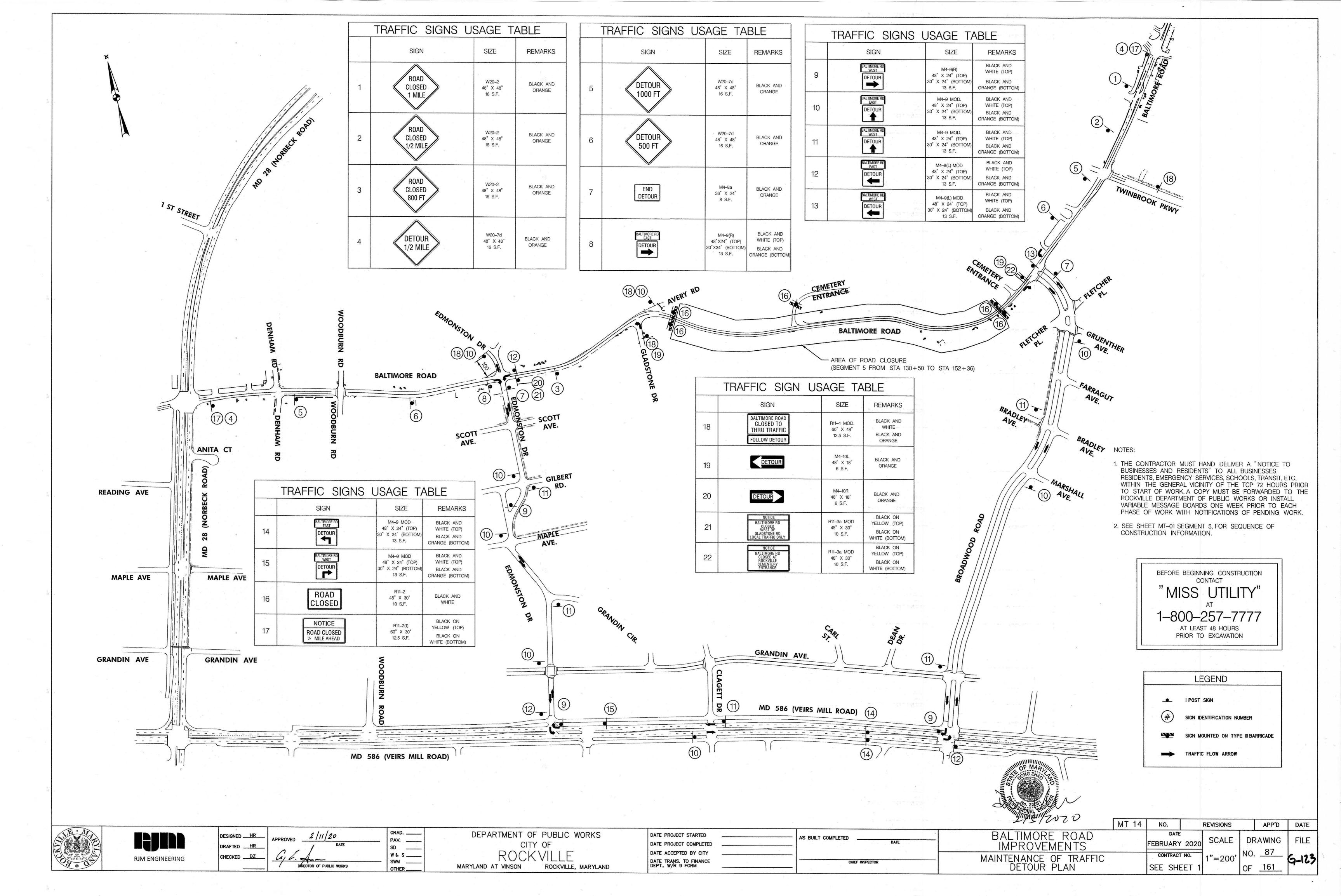
We understand the continued and growing need for multimodal transportation services and travel options in our City and Region and have made equity in providing these services the highest priority in the City of Rockville. Funding through this application would help us improve access to safe and convenient pedestrian and cycling facilities for residents of one of our most diverse neighborhoods, those without access to cars and those with mobility differences. I thank you for your leadership on this issue and MWCOG's and TPB's dedication to coordinating high quality programs that have clear and visible benefits for the Metropolitan Washington region and our residents.

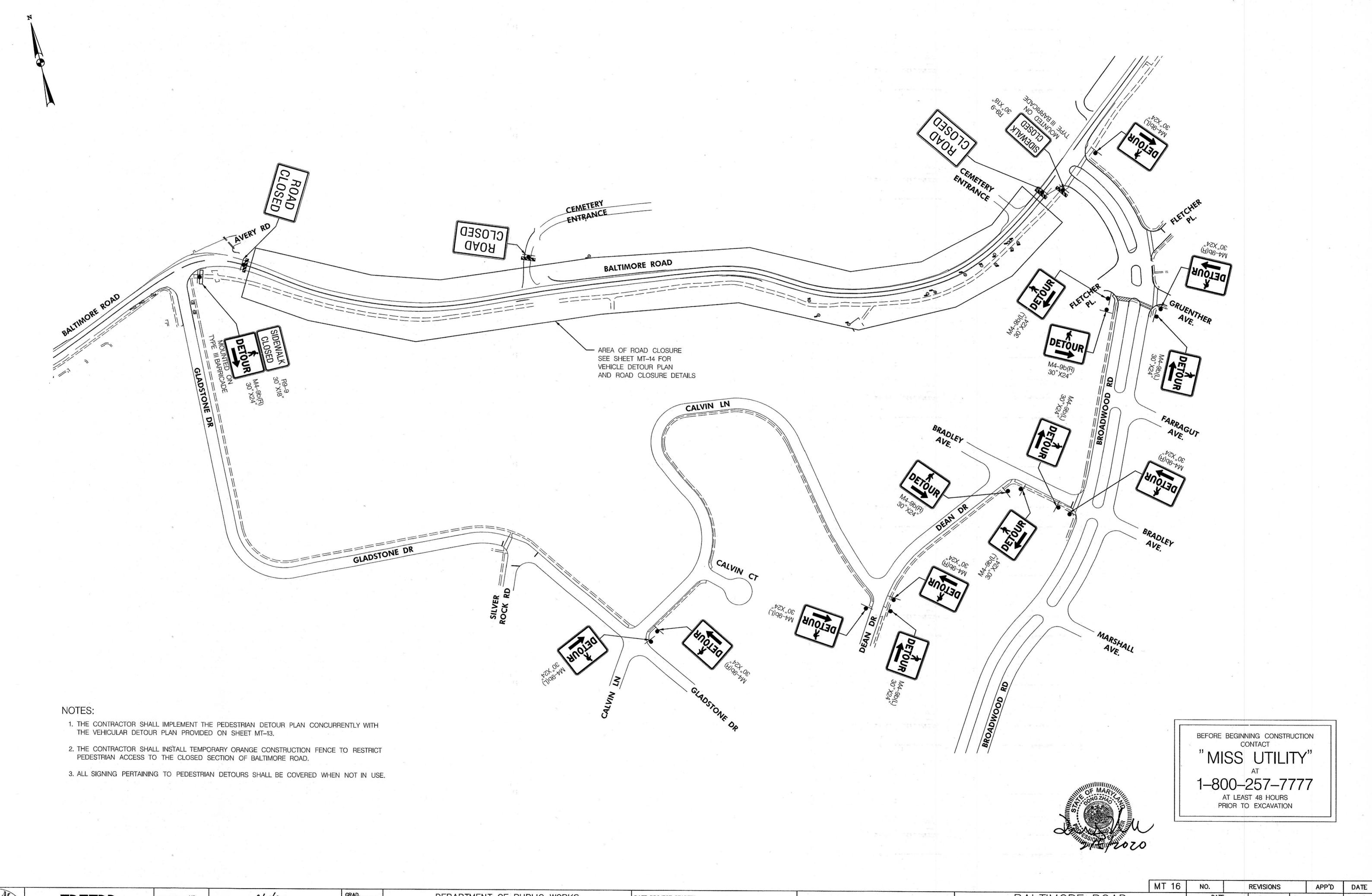
If you have questions, or need additional information, please contact Ms. Jennifer Wang, Senior Transportation Engineer, via email at jwang@rockvillemd.gov or via telephone at 240-314-8506.

Sincerely,

Nancy Breen, Chair

Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee









DESIGNED HR

DRAFTED HR

CHECKED DZ

PROVED 2/11/20
DATE

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PAV. ____
SD ____
SWM ____
OTHER____

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

CITY OF

ROCKVILLE

MARYLAND AT VINSON ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

DATE PROJECT STARTED

DATE PROJECT COMPLETED

DATE ACCEPTED BY CITY

DATE TRANS. TO FINANCE
DEPT.. W/R 9 FORM

AS BUILT COMPLETED _______ DATE ______

BALTIMORE ROAD
IMPROVEMENTS

MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC
PEDESTRIAN DETOUR PLAN